## Miller, Robert

From: Grisier, Mary

Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2017 10:10 AM

To: Thomas Matsuda

Cc: TenBrook, Patti; Magnan, Eric; McWhorter, Scott; Hopkins, Yvette; Miller, Robert

Subject: Section 26/27 (HLE) letter

Attachments: HI HLE Lehua.pdf

-001

## Good morning Tom,

Attached please find a high level episode referral letter for the fish kill/bird kill that occurred last week near Lehua. Let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks, Mary

Mary Grisier

Life Scientist US EPA Region 9, Pesticides Office 75 Hawthorne Street Land Division (LND 2-2) San Francisco, CA 94105 phone (415)947-4213



## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION IX

75 Hawthorne Street San Francisco, CA 94105

VIA EMAIL

September 12, 2017

Thomas Matsuda, Program Manager Hawaii Department of Agriculture Pesticide Branch 1428 S. King Street Honolulu, HI 96814

Dear Tom:

Section 27(a) of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) requires EPA to refer significant allegations of pesticide use violations ("high level episodes") to the States. EPA understands that it is often the States that have initial knowledge of potentially significant pesticide use violations. The purpose of this letter is to acknowledge receipt of a possible high level episode from your office, and to request that you keep me apprised of the progress of your investigation.

This episode involves the discovery of at least 45 dead fish and several birds offshore of the island of Lehua. Lehua is currently undergoing aerial pesticide applications to eradicate rats from the island. Please keep me apprised of developments in your investigation on a weekly basis, including any lab results or significant changes in the status of this case. Also, please inform me of any planned enforcement actions related to this investigation prior to being issued.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I can be reached at (415)947-4213, or at grisier.mary@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

Mary Grisier HI Project Officer

Cc: Patti Tenbrook, Acting Manager, Pesticides Office, EPA Region 9
Eric Magnan, Manager, FIFRA Enforcement
Scott McWhorter, Pesticide Enforcement Liaison to HI Dept. of Agriculture